

Attorney Docket No. 04043/LH

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): S. NOMURA et al.

Serial No. : 10/764,414

Filed : January 23, 2004

For : IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD, IMAGE
PROCESSING APPARATUS AND IMAGE
PROCESSING PROGRAM

Art Unit : 2621

Examiner : Not Yet Assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
WITH STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e)
AND STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.704(d)**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

Submitted herewith are the following:

- (1) Copy of a European Search Report dated June 7, 2004, issued in the counterpart European application;
- (2) Copies of the cited publications; and
- (3) Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B. It is requested that initialed copies of the Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B be returned to indicate that the publications listed therein have been considered and made of record.

Three U.S. publications are identified on the attached form PTO/SB/08A. These three published U.S. applications are U.S. counterparts to three EP publications cited in the European Search report.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date noted below.

N. Sahadeo
Nalini P. Sahadeo

Dated: June 21, 2004

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper, to Account No. 06-1378.

The U.S. patent publications identified on said form PTO/SB/08A are not enclosed herewith since the USPTO waived the requirement to file copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications for U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003. See the USPTO Notice dated July 11, 2003.

Said communication is in English, thereby satisfying the requirements for a concise explanation of relevance for any non-English language publications cited therein (MPEP 609 III A(3)).

STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e) (1)

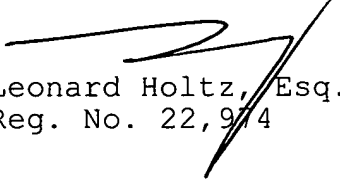
Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement. Said Communication bears a mailing date of June 7, 2004. Therefore, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is timely under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97(e) and does not require a fee.

STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.704(d)

Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in said communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement.

It is respectfully requested that the attached publications be considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,



Leonard Holtz, Esq.
Reg. No. 22,974

Encls.

Dated: June 21, 2004

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT			Application Number	10/764,414
			Filing Date	01/23/2004
			First Named Inventor	S. NOMURA
			Group Art Unit	2821
			Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	Attorney Docket Number	04043/LH

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Inits ⁴	Cite No ¹	Document Number	Kind Code ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion
	A	2001/0016066	A1	AMONOU	08-23-2001	
	B	2002/0126893	A1	HELD et al.	09-12-2002	
	C	2002/0150291	A1	NAF et al.	10-17-2002	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam Inits ⁴	Cite No ¹	Offc ³	Document Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion	T ⁶
	D	WO	01/26050	A2	A.F.A. PRODUCTS GROUP, INC.	04-12-2001		
	E	EP	1 107 185	A1	CANON RESEARCH CENTRE FRANCE S.A.	06-13-2001		
	F	EP	1 231 565	A1	GRETAG IMAGING TRADING AG	08-14-2002		
	G	EP	1 229 734	A1	GRETAG IMAGING TRADING AG	08-07-2002		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Place a check here if English translation is attached.

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				Group Art Unit	2821
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	04043/LH

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of article, title of item, date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
	H	MALLAT, S. et al., "Signal Characterization from Multiscale Edges," Proceedings of the International Conference on Pattern Recognition. Atlantic City, June 16-21, 1990. Conference A: Computer Vision and Conference B: Pattern Recognition Systems and Applications, Los Alamitos, IEEE Comp. Soc. Press, US, Vol. 1 Conf. 10, June 16, 1990, Pages 891-896, XP010020328, ISBN: 0-8186-2062-5.	
	I	SHI, Z. et al., "An Approach to Image Segmentation using Multiresolution Analysis of Wavelets," Systems, Man, and Cybernetics, 1999. IEEE SMC '99 Conference Proceedings. 1999 IEEE International Conference on Tokyo, Japan, October 12-15, 1999, Picataway, NJ, USA, IEEE, US, October 12, 1999, pages 810-815, XP010363109, ISBN: 0-7803-5731-0.	
Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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